Comprehensive water management scheme

†*376. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are going to start a comprehensive water management scheme to get rid of drinking water problem in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme; and

(c) the expenditure likely to be incurred by Government for the said scheme?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) to (c) Government of India has laid due emphasis on drinking water problems in the country. The Finance Minister while presenting the Budget for 2005-06 has stated that all drinking water schemes have now been brought under the Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission. He has further announced that during 2005-06, the emphasis will be on covering more habitations and on tackling water quality in about 2.16 lakh habitations in Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Rajasthan, West Bengal and some other States. The Outlay for the Mission has been proposed to be increased from Rs. 3,300 crore in 2004-05 to Rs. 4,750 crore in 2005-06.

Harassment of credit card holders by the credit card companies

*377. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the credit card companies do not close card accounts on the requests of their card holders and continue to bill them inspite of several requests for cancellations to credit card companies; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Government has been receiving representations from individuals and different organisations regarding grievances against credit card issuing banks including the one relating to continuation of credit cards despite instructions from the credit card holders for cancellation.

(b) Reserve Bank of India has issued guidelines to Scheduled Commercial Banks on Fair Practice Code in May 2003 advising banks to

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.